

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 EB-08 NSCE-00 SS-15 DOE-15
SOE-02 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
DOEE-00 /068 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/V:WCSERGEANT
APPROVED BY ARA/AND - MR. BARNEBEY
ARA/P - MR. DIETERICH

-----041840 131631Z /64

O 131602Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 149430

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PERP, VE, US

SUBJECT: THE "BRIEFING PAPERS LEAK"

REF: STATE 148503

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE OFFICIAL TEXT OF THE STATEMENT
MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT THE NOON PRESS
BRIEFING ON JUNE 12, 1978. QUOTE: I HAVE A SHORT
STATEMENT.

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 10, OUR EMBASSY IN CARACAS ISSUED THE
FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA HAS SEEN THE UPI REPORT THAT ALLEGEDLY
DESCRIBES CERTAIN BRIEFING PAPERS COMMENTING ON VENE-
ZUELAN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. THE EMBASSY WISHES TO STATE
THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TAKES
ABSOLUTELY NO POSITION REGARDING THE FORTHCOMING VENE-
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ZUELAN ELECTIONS. THE POINTS OF VIEW DESCRIBED IN THE
NEWS REPORT DO NOT IN ANY WAY REFLECT THE POSITION OR
POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT." THAT'S THE END
OF THE EMBASSY'S QUOTE.

I WOULD SAY FURTHER THAT THE QUOTATIONS FROM CLASSIFIED

DOCUMENTS THAT APPEARED IN THE PRESS ACCOUNT SEEMED TO COME FROM BACKGROUND BRIEFING MATERIALS PREPARED AT STAFF LEVELS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP. THEY DO NOT REPRESENT A STATEMENT OF U.S. POLICY. THEY DO NOT REPRESENT OFFICIAL U.S. VIEWS OR POLICY.

LET ME GIVE YOU TWO EXTRACTS OF WHAT PRESIDENT CARTER DID SAY IN CARACAS WHICH ARE DEFINITIVE STATEMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION.

THE FIRST: "THERE IS NO PLACE I WOULD RATHER BEGIN SUCH A JOURNEY THAN HERE IN VENEZUELA, MY NATION'S ALLY IN SUPPORT OF DEMOCRACY AND ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADERS IN THE SOLUTION OF THOSE ISSUES THAT TROUBLE US SO MUCH." THAT'S THE END OF ONE QUOTE.

A SECOND QUOTE: "WE HAVE A POLICY IN OUR COUNTRY, WHICH I AM INSISTENT IN MAINTAINING, OR NOT INTERVENING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS."

AND THAT IS THE END OF MY STATEMENTS FOR THE DAY. UNQUOTE.

2. JUAN WALTE TOLD JEFF DIETERICH, ARA PRESS OFFICER, THAT HE WAS GIVEN A COPY OF THE VENEZUELA-BRAZIL BRIEFING PAPERS AROUND THE TIME OF THE VISIT. HE SAID THAT "NO ONE IN THIS BUILDING" (THE STATE DEPARTMENT) CONFIDENTIAL

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GAVE HIM THE PAPERS. WALTE SAID HE PLANNED NO NEW ARTICLES. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT HE DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING NEW IN THE PAPERS (SIC) OTHER THAN THE FBI-STATE DEPARTMENT TEAM VISIT TO PRESIDENT PEREZ. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAPERS, PRESS RELEASES, NEWS LEAKS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE149430
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WCSERGEANT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780246-1194
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780664/aaaacdjlj.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bb4a498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Reference: 78 STATE 148503
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE \"BRIEFING PAPERS LEAK\"
TAGS: PEPR, AMGT, VE, US
To: CARACAS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bb4a498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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